

Triway finds out it's more than a passing team

By MIKE PLANT

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WOOSTER — On a night when the elements dampened Triway's high-powered offense, the Titans found out that they just might have a complete team.

A steady rain pelted down and gradually gave Triway another pit — a mud pit. But a second-



**Titans 3
Mustangs 0**

quarter field goal from Christian Raber was all the Titans would need — the defense did the rest and Triway had a 3-0 Principals Athletic Conference victory over Tuslaw.

The win pushed Triway's record to 7-2 overall, 5-1 in the PAC, and clinched a home playoff game for the Titans.

"As far as the offense goes, when it isn't clicking, we need the defense and special teams to back them up," said Triway's two-way lineman Eric Myers, who led the defense that gave up only 45 yards to the Mustangs. "On a night like tonight, it's made for us — we knew it would be a defensive game, we had our soccer kicker come through for us ... it was beautiful."

Even with a strong wind to go with the rain, Triway's Derek Carmichael attempted 23 passes in the first half, completing 12 for 120 yards. But Tuslaw (4-5, 3-3) intercepted the junior twice on tipped balls that halted drives in Mustang territory.

Midway through the second quarter, working into the wind, Carmichael went long down the left sideline, with Cole Drake making a great leaping catch for 25 yards. On a second down at Tuslaw's 36, Carmichael fired a strike down the middle to Brandon Butcher to the 10. Three plays later, Raber came on and drilled a 28-yard field goal.

"It's what we do," Triway coach Tony Lee said of the first-half passing, although Car-

michael tried just five passes in the second half. "As long as we have dry footballs, we're OK, but it was hard for Derek to plant his foot and push off. As the field got slicker, it really neutralized us."

Raber's kick split the uprights with plenty to spare. It was the senior's first field goal of the season.

"At the beginning of the season Christian wasn't at practice a lot because of soccer, and

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Triway's Kyle Maxwell (20) closes in on a sack of Tuslaw quarterback Justin Erfurth late in their game Friday at Triway. Tuslaw had a rough night, gaining just 45 yards of offense in a 3-0 loss.



Triway's Sawyer Polen heads past Tuslaw's Jordan Ressler (51) and upfield on a punt return in the second half of the Titans' game with Tuslaw. The Titans made a first-half field goal stand up in a 3-0 victory.

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